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the author has been quick to realize the strength which comes from preserving a correct literary form. Professor Hall's paraphrase is sometimes very happy, and the book will be read with a new appreciation of the teaching of Jesus. The critical problems connected with the synoptists are always recognized, but the attention of the reader is not distracted from that which is the real substance of the book. It is a great satisfaction to be able to say further that Professor Hall's style is never slovenly, and, while occasionally one feels that he has not quite used the best turn of expression, generally his explanatory notes and condensing paraphrases are forcible and clear. His interpretations of the parables are especially to be commended. The references to literature are frequent, and on the whole catholic.

S. M.

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**The Land of Israel: A Text Book on the Physical and Historical Geography of the Holy Land**, embodying the Results of Recent Research. By ROBERT LAIRD STEWART, D.D., Professor of Pastoral Theology and Biblical Archæology in the Theological Seminary of Lincoln University, Pa. With seventeen Maps and numerous Illustrations. New York, Chicago, Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1899, Pp. xxix + 352.

While no book is likely quite to equal the great work of George Adam Smith as a historical geography, there was plenty of opportunity for a book which, somewhat like a text-book, should bring together the results of recent excavations and study in a compact volume. It is this sort of book that Professor Stewart has produced. The volume is divided into two main parts. The first handles the land as a whole, discussing its physical features, natural history, early inhabitants, tribal divisions, caravan routes, and, very briefly, the historical associations; while the second part contains discussions of the four longitudinal sections of the land. Professor Stewart does not attempt to write a monograph or to champion special views, and is always ready to quote other men's words as well as opinions. But these characteristics, so far from injuring the book, constitute a distinct feature, and, coupled with the illustrations—some of which, by the way, reflect no credit on the publishers—make the book one of decided value for any Bible student. It is gratifying to notice that Professor Stewart is not bound down by traditional identifications of Calvary. He favors the knoll in which there is the grotto of Jeremiah.

He further favors Khan-minyeh as the site for Capernaum. The most elaborate portion of the work very properly concerns Jerusalem and its environs, and is easily the most valuable part of the book, doubtless because Professor Stewart has at his disposal the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund. On less important questions, as the location of Cana, his work will be of no aid to those at all acquainted with the literature of the subject. One could wish, indeed, that he had more fully treated Galilee as a whole. It is perhaps inevitable that handbooks should assume a certain dogmatic tone, but few other scholars, probably, would have dismissed the whole question of the Bethsaidas in half a page, or have stated so certainly that there were two. The chief general criticism to be passed upon the book is one which would perhaps have to be passed upon any book covering so many detailed points: in many places it is superficial. At the same time, so far as it goes in its discussions, it seems to be generally trustworthy, and at all events it stands today as the best small volume upon the geography of the Holy Land.

S. M.

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**The History of the Devil and the Idea of Evil** from the Earliest Times to the Present Day. By DR. PAUL CARUS. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Co., 1900. Pp. xvi + 496. \$6.

In all that concerns the outward make-up of a book this volume is admirable. The type is clear; the illustrations are well printed; the paper is thin, strong, and opaque; the margins are wide; the book is easily handled, and altogether a delight to the eye. In respect to the contents, however, one's judgment is sorely tried. On the one hand, the abundance of useful illustrations is highly commendable; the material gathered is in most instances from good sources and wisely selected; there is a full index. But in the arrangement of his material the author has shown so little skill, and the frequent digressions into fields far remote from the theme are so trying, that the reader seeking for history and not encyclopædia is in despair. More than that, the author has no first-hand knowledge of most of the fields he traverses, and falls into numerous errors of detail which vex a scholar and tend to cause him to suspect the accuracy of the whole. Add to these deficiencies an extraordinary number of errors in the transcription of proper names ("Hyttites" and "Sampson" are examples) and an unlimited variety of *obiter dicta*, some absurd and others quite unfounded, and it is difficult to come to a conclusion as to the value